

Appl. No. 10/660,452
Amdt. Dated October 26, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 26, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the title (page 1, line 1) with the following amended title:

INVERTEBRAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISK PROSTHESIS

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] The base plate 1 and the top plate 2 can be made of a biocompatible material. Preferably, the base plate 1 and the top plate 2 are made of steel or titanium, in particular of stainless steel 316L or a cobalt chrome alloy or titanium implant grade.

According to a first embodiment the intervening core 3 is formed from a body-compatible high-molecular polyethylene synthetic material or any other suitable biocompatible polymer or other biocompatible material. Preferably the core is made of a high molecular weight polyethylene of the ~~UHM-WPE~~ UHMWPE type with a molecular weight preferably between 2×10^6 to 10×10^6 . The two rings, 13 and 13', are formed from a body-compatible elastic synthetic material, for example medical grade ~~silicon~~ silicone.

Please replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] The core 23 is constructed in three parts. The core comprises of two ~~plan~~ planar-convex lenticular bodies 28, having ~~plan~~ planar faces. The ~~plan~~ planar faces of the bodies 28 face each other. A ~~plan parallel~~ coplanar plate 29 is arranged between the two ~~plan~~ planar faces. The lenticular bodies 28, 28' and the plate 29 have substantially the same diameter. The curve of the convex faces of the lenticular bodies corresponds to the curve of the concave recesses 26, 26' cooperating therewith.

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Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] The base plate and top plate are preferably constructed of the same material as described above with respect to the base plate and top plate of the first embodiment. The lenticular bodies 28, 28' preferably are made from the same material as the base and top plates. Plate 29 is formed from a body-compatible elastic synthetic material, preferably a medical grade ~~silicon~~ silicone or medical grade ~~silicon~~ silicone rubber. In this way the lenticular bodies together with the base and top plates take on the tilting motion that the intervertebral disk prosthesis is subject to while plate 29 takes care of the elasticity and therefore provides cushioning for the prosthesis.

Please replace paragraph [0040] with the following amended paragraph:

[0040] The core 53 has on its side facing the top plate 52 a ~~plan~~ planar-convex lenticular body 61, corresponding to the lenticular body 28' of FIG. 4 in form and material. On the side facing away from this lenticular body a ~~plan~~ parallel coplanar plate 62 is provided between its ~~plan~~ planar surface and the flat surface 57 of the base plate 51. The connection shown only schematically in FIG. 6 between base plate 51 and top plate 52 with the core 53 in between is constructed in the same way as in the two previously described embodiments. In this embodiment the movement takes place via the sliding pair of lenticular body 61 and top plate 52. Plate 62 provides for the damping.